

The Library Assistant :

The Official Journal of the Library Assistants' Association

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The next Meeting of this Association will be held at **The National Library for the Blind, 18, Tulton Street, Westminster,** on **Wednesday, 13th December, at 7 p.m.,** by kind permission of the Executive Committee of that Institution. The gathering will be of an entirely informal nature, and **Miss E. W. Austin,** the Librarian and Secretary, will explain the objects and methods of the Library.

The Library's present premises have only recently been taken over, through the generosity of the Carnegie Trust, and consist of a very fine main library, with spacious reading room, offices and storage accommodation. The character of the Institution's work necessitates many interesting variations of ordinary library practice, and there will be much to be learned on the technical side alone from Miss Austin's description, while on the human side the work is a revelation to the uninitiated. There will be no formality whatever about the proceedings, Miss Austin will not read a paper, questions at every turn will be invited, and every opportunity will be given to all to gain a full acquaintance with this department of Librarianship.

By favour of Miss Austin we are able to print a street plan showing the exact situation of the Library. See centre page.

The next Re-union for Library Workers will be held in the rooms of the Royal Society of Medicine, **1, Wimpole Street, W.,** on Wednesday, December 6th, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. Falconer Madan (Bodley's Librarian) will deliver an illustrated lecture **"On the Historical Development of the Bodleian Buildings."**

Light refreshments will be served. Friends of members are welcome to attend.

EDITORIAL.

The President's Message.—Mr. James Ross, the President of the Association, sends the following message to the men on active service :—

"Our hearts go out to the fighting men of our country, especially those belonging to our Association, or the profession of librarianship. Their splendid conduct, and the sacrifices and hardships they have cheerfully endured intensify our admiration. In the stern task which confronts them in the New Year they may be assured that our thoughts will be constantly with them."

The L.A.A. in Scotland.—As will be seen by reference to page 145, the Scottish Branch of the Association is fortunate enough to be in a position to arrange a definite programme of meetings for the present winter. We congratulate the Branch on its good fortune and wish it a successful winter's work. We have secured for publication in our next issue the thoughtful and encouraging address given at the inaugural meeting by Dr. F. T. Barrett. We feel sure that our readers will look forward to reading this address with much interest, coming as it does from one of the very foremost men in the profession.

The Close of the Volume.—In accordance with our usual practice, the index to the present volume is sent out with this issue. Although smaller than we have known it for some years past, we think that the volume is certainly not the least interesting. It contains, for instance, the series of messages from some of the leading men in our profession, appreciative of the work done by the Association during the twenty-one years' of its existence, and notes on men whom we could ill afford to lose, but who, alas, have been called to make the greatest of all sacrifices on their country's behalf. It would be invidious to mention names here, but a glance down the columns of the index will reveal them all; suffice it to say, that their memory will ever be cherished by their profession and by the Association to which most of them were proud to belong.

Our Album of Honour.—We are glad to say that there has been a fair response to our request for photographs of library workers and for cuttings relating to them. We take this opportunity of thanking those librarians and assistants who have kindly offered to assist us by collecting photographs. Their help is much appreciated by the Association. At present, however, we have only received a comparatively small collection, and we earnestly appeal for further assistance. Such material as we have will be on view at the December meeting.

Hospitality to Colleagues on Service.—Our note on this matter last month has had the effect we intended it to have, as will be seen from the two letters printed below. This is a work which deserves the keenest support of all library workers who may find themselves in a position to contribute anything to the comfort of the men on service.

November 11th, 1916.

THE HON. SECRETARY, LIBRARY ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.
 DEAR SIR,
 RE HOSPITALITY TO COLLEAGUES ON SERVICE.

The note in the L.A. for November prompts me to say that should any colleagues be stationed at one of the Military Camps near here, Litherland, Crosby, or Hightown, or anywhere in the Liverpool district, or be in hospital about here, I should be pleased to do anything in my power to relieve the tedium or hardships of the circumstances.

Perhaps Waterloo may seem rather an out-of-the-way district, but one colleague has been in hospital here and found his way to the Waterloo Library, hence my response to your request.

Yours faithfully,

KATE FEARNSIDE.

17th November, 1916.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE LIBRARY ASSISTANT."

DEAR SIR,

It was a real pleasure to read in your last issue that our Association has determined to make some effort on behalf of our colleagues now serving with the Colours who may find themselves momentarily stranded in the Provinces or the great City of London not knowing how to occupy the hours at their disposal. It is also good to see that some of the members remaining are prepared to visit hospitals where sick or wounded may be staying, and one hopes that we may thus all become possible sources of comfort and assistance in such cases.

Recently I had the privilege of meeting a colleague who was passing through this City, and spent three-quarters of an hour with him between trains. I believe it cheered him to "talk shop" for a little while and to get news of old friends, while it was certainly better than passing the time in a dreary waiting-room. I have also been able to visit a wounded librarian in hospital, and through a friend in a distant library have secured information of a wounded Canadian soldier for his relatives at home. These are little ways in which many of us may be able to help, and I sincerely trust there will be a large response to your suggestion.

Yours obediently,

"AT PRESENT REJECTED."

Monthly Reunions for Library Workers.—With further reference to the announcement in our last issue we are now able to record that a well attended meeting was held at the Royal Society of Medicine on the 15th November. The chair was occupied by Mr. H. R. Tedder, Honorary Treasurer of the L.A., and Mr. W. C. Berwick Sayers opened a discussion on "Commercial Libraries." Light refreshments were kindly provided, and the well-appointed Library was opened for inspection.

Council Vacancy Filled.—The vacancy on the Council (non-London side) occasioned by the death of Mr. H. W. Checketts, was filled at the re-union of library workers on the 15th November by the election of Miss Gwendolen Rees, temporary sub-librarian of Tottenham, and formerly of the Newport (Mon.) Public Library. On behalf of the Association we cordially welcome Miss Rees to the Council.

L.A.A. ROLL OF HONOUR (continued).

Battersea : *L. TOOLE (Royal Fusiliers).

Chorley : *A. SINGLETON (West Lancs. R.F.A.).

Dewsbury : *WM. C. SMITH (Royal Flying Corps).

Manchester : *HARRY FOSTALL (R.G.A., Signals) ; W. GEO. FRY (Signaller, Royal Navy).

Sunderland : *R. W. LYNN (Motor Machine-Gun Corps) ; H. W. RICKETTS (R.A.M.C.).

West Hartlepool : *G. G. CLARKE (Cork R.G.A.).

Woolwich : *W. H. SHAWCROSS (R.F.A.).

WOUNDED.

*E. Radford (Woolwich). Lance-Corporal E. Radford, of the London Irish, was wounded in the head in September last, but we are glad to learn that he has recovered sufficiently to rejoin his unit. This is the second time Lance-Corporal Radford has been injured.

* Member, L.A.A.

SOME PRINCIPLES OF BOOK SELECTION.*

BY REGINALD G. WILLIAMS, Chief Assistant, Central Lending Library, Bolton.

(Continued.)

In selecting books for children the Librarian has a most difficult task to face—and one that he is often least qualified to perform.

Unlike the other classes of literature, the taste of the children must be the chief guide in selecting, for it is of little use buying only the books which it is considered children ought to read. Classical literature cannot be forced upon the majority of children; their tastes must be pandered to within reason, in order to give them a love for reading. When that is accomplished it may be safely reckoned that the child will come of its own accord to the best literature.

Much has been said and written in condemnation of "Pernicious literature," but it is doubtful if this is as black as it is painted, or responsible for much of the harm attributed to it. The "penny dreadful" is no social evil, as some would have us believe. Its chief harm lies in its physical form. It can do no harm to any healthy minded boy; sensation is necessary to the development of the human mind, and in the mind of the child nature craves for it, and this craving must be satisfied if we are to have healthy minded citizens. Ruskin asserts that

sensation is good for us: in "Sesame and Lilies" he emphatically says, "I can tell you it is not less sensation we want, but more, . . . as human beings it is good for us."

Such literature, however, is outside the province of the public library. Its very cheapness excludes it, even if its literary merit would admit it. It is possible, though, that if an average "blood-curdler" was produced in the form of a handsome book well printed and illustrated, it would find a place on the shelves of many juvenile libraries.

Moralizing books are undesirable as a class, but it is difficult to differentiate. Every library should contain works by Hesba Stretton, yet these are essentially of that nature. Children like these books, however, and that determines whether they should be placed in public libraries. The moralizing can do no harm so long as it is not overdone to such an extent as to be repellent, and the favour with which such books are received should be the guide as to their purchase.

The selection of books for the very youngest children presents difficulties. Mere alphabet and picture books should not be purchased, but easy readers and simple story books should be provided. It is not the business of the public library to teach the children to read, but to give them a love for good literature, and form the reading habit.

Juvenile collections should be composed chiefly of romance and adventure; school tales and fairy tales; natural history in the form of animal books for the youngest children, and "beginners" in botany and zoology for the elder should be provided; and a very liberal smattering of useful arts to satisfy boy readers. Historical biography should also be well represented.

The selection of prose fiction is looked upon as one of the easiest of classes to select, but in reality it is the hardest. To be done properly the selection of this class must be governed by principles that cannot well be applied to other classes.

I have made a careful study of the selection of fiction and have come to the conclusion that the value of a selection can only be seen when it has proved itself. We must witness the fruits of our selection and watch them carefully instead of finishing when the books are ready for circulation. To be able to do this, I suggest that the class be divided into three sections which I will term:—

- A. Classical Fiction.
- B. 1st Grade Fiction.
- C. 2nd Grade Fiction.

Under these heads the selector should select the various authors and place their names in alphabetical order. Thus in section A

I would have the following names :—

Austen (Jane).
 Besant (Sir Walter).
 Blackmore (R. D.).
 Brontë (Charlotte).
 Bunyan (John).
 Cockton (Henry).
 Dickens (Charles), etc., etc.

In Class B :—

Allen (Grant).
 Atherton (Gertrude).
 Begbie (Harold).
 Caine (Hall).
 Carey (R. N.).
 Churchill (Winston).
 Conrad (Joseph), etc., etc.

In Class C :—

Alexander (Mrs.).
 Askew (A. J. C. and C. C.).
 Barrett (Frank).
 Boothby (G.).
 Castle (Agnes and Egerton), etc., etc.

It may be argued that the selection of novelists must differ by each librarian, but should it do so, it will not be detrimental to the selection so long as the principle is carried out. Of course it is essential that the selector should work out the three groups before any purchases are made. About 6 per cent. of the aggregate book expenditure should be allowed for prose fiction; this in its turn may be divided on something like the following lines :—

1 per cent. for Class A.
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for Class B.
 $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for Class C.

If the selection is done in this manner, and I see no reason why it should not be, it will come as a great surprise to the selector to find what a tremendous amount of inferior fiction must be deleted from the original selection.

First consideration must always be given to Class A. It will be found that many volumes in this class will soon get worn out. Needless to say, such works should be replaced as soon as possible. The purchase of new books and replacements necessary in Class B must be governed by careful consideration of each work. In regard to Class C, books which get worn out or withdrawn for various reasons, should only be replaced in exceptional circumstances. When this plan is carried out, the stock will gradually "weed" itself.

I make the suggestion that these three classes should be kept separate, especially in open-access libraries. When this

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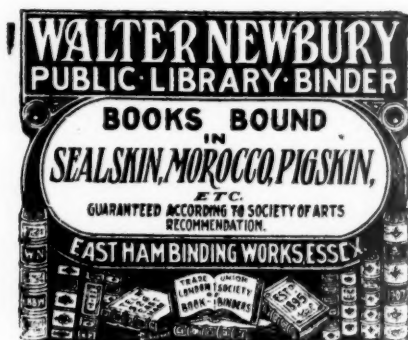
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Telegrams: "Foylibra," London. London W.C.

Library Association: Special Period,
Literary History.

The Special Period has been fixed for the Literary History Examination,
1917, as 1810-1840.

East Ham Bookbinding Works,



Plashet Lane and Elizabeth Road, East Ham, Essex.

ALBUM OF HONOUR.

The Association is anxious to secure

PHOTOGRAPHS,

Of all Library Workers on Active Service. Also

NEWSPAPER AND OTHER CUTTINGS, PHOTOGRAPHS OF MEMORIALS,

And any other material which can be incorporated in the Album of Honour, now being compiled.

Please send all material to:

MR. H. A. SHARP,
Central Library,
Town Hall,
Croydon.

LIBRARY ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

TWENTY-SECOND SESSION.

The NEXT MEETING will be held at

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND

18, TUFTON STREET, WESTMINSTER,

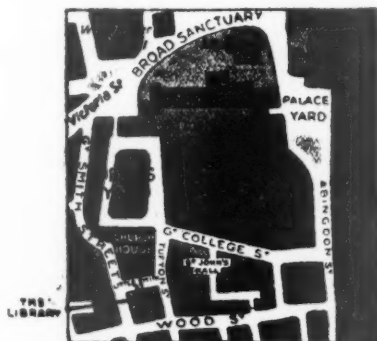
On Wednesday, 13th December, 1916,

at 7 p.m.

WHEN

MISS E. W. AUSTIN,

The Librarian and Secretary, will explain the objects and methods
of this interesting Library.



PLAN SHOWING SITUATION OF THE LIBRARY.

ALL LIBRARY WORKERS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED.

THE PROCEEDINGS WILL BE QUITE INFORMAL.

"I hold every man a debtor to his profession, from the which, as men do of course seek to receive countenance and profit, so ought they of duty to endeavour themselves by way of amends to be a help and an ornament thereunto."—FRANCIS BACON, BARON VERULAM.

ARE YOU HELPING?

The Library Assistants' Association

has done much good work for its Members and for LIBRARIANSHIP GENERALLY in the past. It has stimulated individual effort towards increased efficiency; it has always urged the further development of the Public Library Movement; it has stood for better conditions and has claimed a **STANDING FOR THE PROFESSION**. At the moment the Association is extending its influences and work, and needs the support and co-operation of all who are qualified for Membership; difficult problems lie ahead which can only be faced effectually by a strong Association.

YOU CAN DO SOMETHING.

You can quicken interest in your own vicinity. You can get new Members, or secure subscribers to "THE LIBRARY ASSISTANT." Perhaps you can obtain advertisements for "The Library Assistant."

WILL YOU TRY TO DO SOMETHING

for your Association? And will you try now? Remember that the L.A.A. was established TWENTY-ONE YEARS AGO, and holds a recognized position. It is no new venture with its way to make.

Any information you may need will be gladly supplied by the *Hon. Secretary*, BROMLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY, BRUNSWICK ROAD, POPLAR, LONDON, E.

is done many points will be made clear, *i.e.*, the stocks will be more easily ascertained. Works which do not circulate in Class C will be easily detected, and these books, and even in some cases the author's name, would be eliminated from the list. Under these principles of fiction selection we should get an ideal stock, as each author is weighed and considered, and his works only purchased when occasion demands them. Classes A and B will well repay the attention devoted to them. They will always be there to lead the public when wanted. Again, many borrowers who commence at Class C would try to manage Class B now and again, and eventually to climb to Class A, and when they touched this Class we should seldom see them at Class C again.

Before closing I cannot do better than recommend several of my favourite books which may be read in the order given. All of these works are cheap and 'in print,' and should be on the shelf of every assistant who means to take up the study of Book Selection.

Brooke (Stopford A.). English literature from A.D. 670 to A.D. 1832. Macmillan. 1910. 1/- and 3/6.

First published 1876, this work has run through many editions. It gives a splendid idea of the range of our literature.

Saintsbury (George). Short history of English literature. Macmillan. 1898. 8/6.

The author divides his story into eleven periods, and beginning each division with a brief narrative of literary and linguistic development, summarizes the results and tendencies of each in a series of interchapters.

Baldwin (James). The Book-Lover: a guide to the best reading. Putnam's. 2/6.

Full of valuable suggestions which will repay careful study. Suggestive lists of books are given on History, Geography, Natural History, Philosophy, Religion, Social Science and English Literature. First published 1884.

Harrison (Frederic). The Choice of Books and Other Literary Pieces. Macmillan. 1903. 4/- net.

Devotes 93 pages to the "Choice of Books." He is very emphatic as to the necessity for choice. He does not recommend any method of reading, but leaves each student to find out what is best suited for himself. First published 1886.

Jackson (George). A young man's bookshelf. Kelly. 1913. 1/6 net.

An attempt to create in young men a taste for good books. First published 1898.

Bennett (Arnold). Literary taste: how to form it; with detailed instructions for collecting a complete library of English literature. Hodder and Stoughton. 1914. 1/- net.

A book that will appeal to the private collector and book-lover with small means, as the cheapest editions are in the majority of cases given. First published 1909.

The aim of the above works is to create in students a taste for the good things in literature, also to enable them to recognize "the best." When they have succeeded in doing so, they will have paved the way for an intelligent handling of the general guides to the huge field of literature.

PROCEEDINGS.

NORTH-WESTERN BRANCH: SECOND ANNUAL MEETING.

The Second Annual Meeting of the North-Western Branch was held, by kind permission of the Public Libraries Committee, at Blackburn Public Library, on Wednesday, 27th September.

Delegates arriving in the afternoon enjoyed a delightful ramble through the Billinge Wood—a spot of rare natural beauty—under the guidance of the genial Chairman of the Branch, Mr. James Hindle. Having partaken of an excellent tea, provided through the generosity of the Public Libraries Committee, the members assembled in the Committee Room, where the Annual Business Meeting was held.

In formally welcoming the Association to Blackburn, Mr. Ashton, Chief Librarian, expressed his interest in all matters affecting assistant librarians, and stated that the work performed by the North-Western Branch since its formation had greatly impressed him. He was of opinion that, in spite of the depleted ranks of the Association through the voluntary enlistment of so many members, there was no justification for inactivity. He, therefore, hoped that all assistants not actively engaged on war work would loyally support the Branch in carrying on its work until the termination of hostilities. It was very desirable that the Association should not confine its efforts to the discussion of bibliographical technicalities, and he congratulated the Committee on its enterprise in arranging for the reading and discussion of literary papers.

The Chairman, Mr. James Hindle, in moving the adoption of the Annual Report, drew attention to the fact that the membership of the Branch had increased during the past year, and that all the eligible male members had loyally responded to the country's call. A resolution of sympathy was passed with the parents and relatives of Mr. Eric A. Peppiette, Assistant Librarian, Liverpool University Library, who was killed in action on the 16th August. He was one of the most promising young librarians in the country, and his death deprives the Association of an energetic and valuable member of the Council, and the N.W. Branch of a wise counsellor and loyal colleague.

The following officers were elected for 1916-17:—

President : JAMES HUTT, M.A. (Oxon.), Liverpool.

Chairman : JAMES HINDLE, Blackburn.

Hon. Treasurer : M. J. WRIGLEY, Stockport.

Acting Treasurer : T. A. BARNETT, Manchester.

Hon. Secretary : JAMES ROSS, Walton, Liverpool.

Committee : MISS M. J. ASHTON, THOMAS A. BARNETT, MISS CROSS, W. J. ENTWISLE, H. FOSTALL, W. GEO. FRY, F. HELLIWELL, J. A. MERRISHAW, MISS M. QUINN, R. G. WILLIAMS, and T. W. WRIGHT.

Auditors : J. A. MERRISHAW and C. STOTT.

In the course of an interesting paper on "George Meredith and his Work," Mr. Harry Fostall, Bradford Library, Manchester, remarked that although little was recorded of the early life of Meredith a certain amount of information could be derived from some of his works, notably "Evan Harrington" and "Harry Richmond." For many years Meredith acted as literary adviser to Chapman and Hall, and in this sphere gained a reputation for the wise manner in which he selected the books for publication as well as for the critical and encouraging manner in which he dealt with young authors. Although Meredith's novels were by no means of the popular variety, they were numbered, by those competent to judge, among the greatest and most stimulating ever published. Like Thackeray, Meredith was the novelist of the upper classes, though at the same time embracing such subjects as the pettiness of luxury, German socialism, Italian and Spanish wars of independence, English politics, mining, education, railways, and the navy.

Summarising each of Meredith's works in turn, Mr. Fostall succeeded in bringing out the chief characteristics, indicating the excellences of style, plot and treatment. Some critics considered that "The Ordeal of Richard Feverel" shared with "Vanity Fair" and "The Cloister and the Hearth," the distinction of being one of the three best novels in modern English literature; but whether we agreed with this estimate or not it would be readily conceded that the "Ordeal," together with "The Egoist," have an assured place in English literature.

Meredith's novels made difficult reading, and consequently he was afraid they were read more for the pleasure of his style and thought than for the story-telling.

An interesting discussion ensued in which Messrs. Ashton, Pomfret, Barnett, Fry, Merrishaw, and Miss Quinn took part.

The meeting concluded with hearty votes of thanks to Mr. Ashton, Chief Librarian, for his kind welcome, to Mr. Fostall for his attractive paper, and to Mr. Hindle for presiding.

J.R.

WEST OF SCOTLAND ASSOCIATION OF ASSISTANT LIBRARIANS.

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS, 1916-17.

1916.

Wed., Nov. 1st.—The Mitchell Library, North St., Glasgow. Opening Address. Speaker, Dr. F. T. Barrett.

- Thurs., Nov. 23rd.—"Organisation of Library Assistants." Speaker, Edwin Muir,
- Wed., Dec. 13th.—The Mitchell Library, North St., Glasgow. "The Public School and the Public Library." Speaker, Dr. James Knight. 1917.
- Thurs., Jan. 18th.—The High School, Elmbank St., Glasgow. "Paper, Pens and Ink: an Historical Sketch" (with Lantern Illustrations). Speaker, Adam Henderson,
- Thurs., Feb. 15th.—Anderston District Library, M'Intyre St., Glasgow. Symposium: "The Training of the Library Assistant." Speakers, Miss G. K. Tillie, Miss A. M. M'Bain, and Miss F. York.
- Wed., Mar. 14th.—Pollokshields District Library, Leslie St., Glasgow. "Branch Libraries." Speaker, J. M'Donald,
- Thurs., April 19th.—Woodside District Library, St. George's Road, Glasgow. "Library Work in London." Speaker, C. F. G. Tessier,
- Wed., May 23rd.—Anderston District Library, M'Intyre St., Glasgow. Annual Business Meeting.

Details of arrangements regarding time of meeting, etc., will be announced previous to each meeting.

OUR LIBRARY.

ATHENAEUM SUBJECT INDEX TO PERIODICALS: Issued at the Request of the Library Association. V. 1. 1915. 15 + 350 pp. 12½-in. × 10-in. 1916. Cloth.

In our June issue we referred to the Class Lists which were then being published prefatory to the complete volume of this valuable work for 1915. The volume is now ready, and a most useful one it is. It consists of a consolidation of the Class Lists with some 2,000 additional entries. No fewer than 420 periodicals have been indexed, which, with the exception of seventeen French, two German, two Italian, and two Russian, are all either English or American. The number of articles indexed is 13,374, arranged under 7,054 heads, which are based upon the alphabetical subject headings of the Library of Congress extended and modified to suit English practice. In cases where the titles of the articles indexed do not indicate sufficiently the subject treated, brief annotations are added. A three column author index, containing 7,280 references, occupies the last thirty-three pages of the volume.

We cannot imagine how any library can afford to do without this work, which far surpasses in scope anything that has hitherto been attempted on these lines. The fifth supplement to Poole's "Index" for example indexed 190 periodicals. These are days of great economy when fifty shillings for a year's subscription to such a work as this may sound a lot to some committees, but we venture to think that a cursory glance over the columns of the volume before us will convince even the most obdurate of committees that it is just because of the need for stringent economy that a copy of this Subject Index is so imperative.

In concluding our brief notice we cannot but place on record the indebtedness of the profession—and for that matter of the general public as well—to Messrs. Hopwood and Hulme, on whom the greater part of the work has fallen in connection with the production of the volume, and to the proprietors of the "Athenaeum" for their boldness in undertaking its publication. We may add that if any reader possessing the necessary qualifications can make himself responsible for the indexing of one or more periodicals, his help will be cordially welcomed by the editors.

GOWER, H. D., JAST, L. S., AND TOPLEY, W. W. *The Camera as Historian: a handbook to photographic record work for those who use a camera and for survey or record societies.* 15 + 259 pp. 74 *il. and dia.* 1 *por.* 8-in. × 5½-in. 1916. Sampson Low. 6s. 0d. net.

The first thing that strikes us about this work is that it is really something new, and if it had nothing else to commend itself to our readers we think this would almost suffice, but at the present time such a book should possess a wide appeal amongst public libraries, and municipal and other bodies, for, as the authors state in their preface, its appearance at the present moment "is not inappropriate, for the Great War has furnished an illustration of the value of the work herein advocated and described. An appeal was made some time ago . . . for any prints or pictorial records of churches and other buildings in Belgium, to help in the reconstruction of that country when peace arrives. And there are other destructive forces in nature than the Germans, and as ruthless—fire, for example, and earthquakes. Yet it is probable that there are very few buildings in the world of which complete photographic records exist."

The authors are well qualified for writing such a volume, occupying as they do the positions of Honorary Survey Secretary, Honorary Curator (now retired), and Honorary Treasurer of the Surrey Survey Society founded nearly seventeen years ago.

The term "Photographic Survey" has a double meaning. "It may mean a method of surveying a country for the purpose of map making, in which photography is largely employed, or it may mean the recording, by the camera, of any aspect or department of nature or man's handiwork. It is in the latter sense it is used in this volume."—*Pref.*

Chapter I deals briefly with the scope, value and future of photographic record work, and is followed by a list of such societies in existence, from which we note that about twenty collections are already housed in public libraries and museums in this country. The remaining chapters deal with the interrelation of survey organizations and respective fields of work; the inception and organization of a survey society (including a suggested set of rules); the mounting, labelling, and storage of survey photographs (with many illustrations of forms, filing requisites, tools, etc.); the classification, guiding, and indexing of survey photographs, followed by a detailed subject classification for a county collection of survey photographs (as used for the Surrey Survey); the popularizing of the work of a survey (by means of lectures, exhibitions, meetings and excursions); apparatus (including cameras and their accessories); work in the field; work at home and specialized apparatus; the record print (processes); working makeshifts and miscellaneous formulae; and the acquisition of existing material.

Altogether the volume is an extremely interesting and practical one, and should be in every public library possessing a Photographic Survey or Local Collection.

CHANGES AND APPOINTMENTS.

*Mr. I. BRIGGS, of the Newcastle-upon-Tyne Public Libraries, and Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of the North Eastern Branch of the L.A.A., has carried out the complete re-organization of the libraries of the Jarrow and Hepburn Co-Operative Society, situated at Jarrow and Hepburn.

*Miss M. E. DAY, of the Islington Public Libraries, has been appointed to a position in the library of the London School of Economics.

*Miss LILIAN FAIRWEATHER, Librarian of the Carlton Studios, has been appointed Chief Assistant, Eltham Library, Woolwich.

[The other selected candidates were *Miss M. E. Day (Islington) and *Miss F. de Montmorency (Deptford)].

*HERBERT B. GRIMSDITCH, junior assistant, Liverpool University Library, has been promoted to the rank of assistant.

Miss F. HATFIELD, first assistant, Waterloo-with-Seaforth, has been appointed librarian, Great Crosby.

* Member, L.A.A.

NEW MEMBERS.

South Coast Branch : MISSES NINA H. Boulton, MARJORIE M. Mann, and MILDRED Young, all of Worthing, **Associates.**

West of Scotland Branch : MISS JEAN Stewart, Gorbals Public Library, Glasgow.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

We have received the following report on the second Preliminary Test Examination (for the first Report, see page 48) held on the 11th October :—

" Forty-nine candidates sat, twenty-five candidates passed, twenty-four candidates failed.

" The Examiners reported that although the papers were decidedly easier than on the previous occasion, and their fairness was proved by the fact that the successful candidates all passed in both papers, yet the unsuccessful candidates nearly all failed very badly. There was, in short, a wide abyss between the passes and the failures; and it was evident that the candidates who failed were lacking in the elements of a fair education. The Examiners consider that these results again thoroughly justify the institution of the Preliminary Test."

E.R.

